

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
26 May 2005 (26.05.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/047304 A2**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **C07J 63/00**  
(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/US2004/038252

(22) International Filing Date:  
10 November 2004 (10.11.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
60/518,988 10 November 2003 (10.11.2003) US

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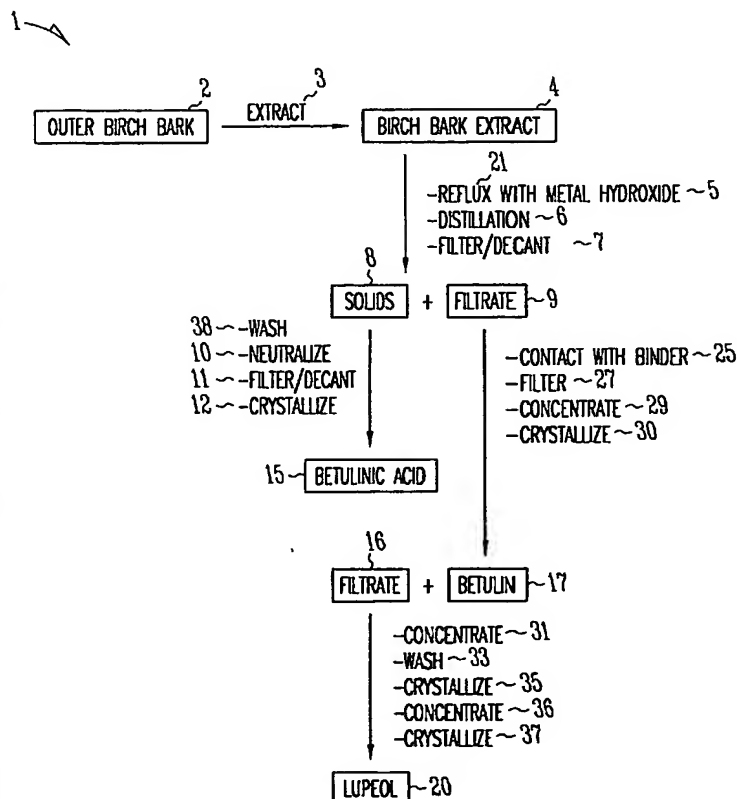
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,  
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,  
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,  
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD FOR OBTAINING NATURAL PRODUCTS FROM PLANT MATERIAL



BIRCH BARK PROCESSING UTILIZING DISTILLATION

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a method for obtaining a natural product (e.g., betulin, lupeol and/or betulinic acid) from a plant extract (e.g., birch bark extract). The method employs a distillation with water and an organic solvent that (i) is water-immiscible, (ii) is capable of forming an azeotropic mixture with water, or (iii) has a boiling point of at least 100°C (e.g., toluene) and an aqueous base (e.g., KOH).



KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**

— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

- (84) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,

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